

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 – 11 (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) A method for implanting a circulatory apparatus in a patient, the apparatus comprising a mechanical circulatory device and a conduit assembly for attachment to the mechanical circulatory device, the conduit assembly including a first rigid curved conduit and a second rigid curved conduit; the method comprising the steps of:

attaching one end of the first rigid curved conduit to the mechanical circulatory device with a first coupling in a rotatable position;

positioning the mechanical circulatory device relative to the patient;

rotating the first rigid curved conduit until a desired position of the first conduit relative to the patient is achieved;

moving the first coupling to a fixed position so as to maintain a predetermined orientation of the first rigid curved conduit when the first coupling is disposed in the fixed position;

attaching another end of the first rigid curved conduit to the second rigid curved conduit with a second coupling in a rotatable position;

positioning the mechanical circulatory device relative to the patient;

rotating the second rigid curved conduit until a desired position of the second rigid curved conduit relative to the patient is achieved; and

moving the second coupling to a fixed position so as to maintain a predetermined orientation of the second rigid curved conduit when the second coupling is disposed in the fixed position;

wherein the first rigid curved conduit and the second rigid curved conduit provide increased adjustability in positioning the circulatory apparatus relative to the patient.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for implanting a circulatory apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the first rigid curved conduit and the second rigid curved conduit are circular in cross-section.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for implanting a circulatory apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the first rigid curved conduit and the second rigid curved conduit are formed from titanium.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for implanting a circulatory apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the first coupling comprises a first rotatable nut, the first rotatable nut being movable between a rotatable position wherein the first rigid conduit is rotatable relative to the mechanical circulatory device, and a fixed position wherein the first rigid curved conduit is fixed relative to the mechanical circulatory device.

16. (Previously Presented) A method for implanting a circulatory apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the first rotatable nut engages a correspondingly threaded inflow port on the mechanical circulatory device.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for implanting a circulatory apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the second coupling comprises a second rotatable nut, the second rotatable nut being movable between a rotatable position wherein the second rigid curved conduit is rotatable relative to the first rigid curved conduit, and a fixed position wherein the second rigid curved conduit is fixed relative to the first rigid curved conduit.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for implanting a circulatory apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the second rotatable nut engages the second end of the first rigid curved conduit, the second end of the first rigid curved conduit being correspondingly threaded.

19. (Currently Amended) A method for implanting a circulatory apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the second rotatable nut includes a lip for engaging the first end of the second rigid curved conduit, the first end of the second rigid curved conduit including a flange.

20. (Previously Presented) A method for implanting a circulatory apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the conduit defines a conduit for conducting blood between a patient and a ventricular assist device.

21. (Previously Presented) A method for implanting a circulatory apparatus according to claim 20, wherein said conduit defines a conduit for conducting blood between a patient and a left ventricular assist device.

22. (Canceled)